Globalization and population precariation: challenges and tendencies of the new world order

Глобализация и современные вызовы прекаризации населения

Abstract

The study objective is searching ways to transform the current world order and to overcome negative modern trends, resulting in social discrepancy, escalation of contractions between rich and poor, social and political instability increase, extremism and terrorism of planetary scale. Along with investigating precariation as a result of sporadic globalization process, the article deals with other global problems, such as mass population poverty, migration level increase, drastic polarization of living standards in countries with developed, developing and underdeveloped economies. The research is based on historical approach applying methods of logical structure, situational, and comparative analysis. Statistical data allowed the authors to conclude that regardless of regulating conditions of precariation development, this phenomenon becomes mass-scale and insurmountable without fundamental transformation of current world management. The obtained conclusions and recommendations can be applied in transforming social structure of society.

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Annunciation

Одной из современных тенденций развития мировой экономики является процесс глобализации, который усугубляется разнородной деятельностью человечества, преследующего свои личные или групповые интересы. Глобализация, постиндустриальная революция, роботизация техники и внедрение цифровой рабочей силы порождают социально-экономические изменения и новые тренды развития миропорядка. Происходит формирование нового глобального класса – прекариата, который пополняют люди с незащищенной занятостью и негарантированным заработком, без каких-либо гарантий на будущую обеспеченную жизнь. Цель исследования – поиск способов преобразования сложившегося миропорядка для преодоления негативных трендов современности, приводящих к социальной несправедливости, обострению противоречий между богатыми и бедными, усиливанию общественно-политической нестабильности, вооружённым конфликтам, экстремизму и терроризму планетарного масштаба. Наряду с исследованием прекаризации, как следствия стихийного процесса глобализации, в статье рассматриваются и другие глобальные проблемы, такие как: массовое обнищание населения мира, резкая поляризация уровня жизни населения в экономически развитых, развивающихся и отстающих странах, усиление миграции населения. Исследование основано на историческом подходе с применением методов логико-структурного, ситуационного и сравнительного анализа. На основе статистических показателей сделан

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to enhance economy, to overcome the gap of underdeveloped countries, to improve living standards, to eliminate precariation and poverty around the world.

Key Words: Social structure, new world order, universal human values, abolition of states, confederation, global government.

Introduction

Globalization and formation of open global economic space with prevailing liberal market relations with active integration and free movement of capital, labour force, goods and services, innovation, information, and other resources trigger acute planetary social problems. One of these problems is emergence of precariat, a new social class characterized by unstable, risky, and dangerous position on labour market and in the social structure of society.

Precariat is currently increasing spatially and numerically under the conditions of social life liberalization. Confrontation and protest actions of the precariat are witnessed in many countries worldwide, like in certain European countries, the Middle East, etc. The greatest danger lies in the fact that most part of the precariat and those who are about to join it, can follow neofascism path. And it is presently the case. Religious extremism and terrorism are the most hazardous modern forms of precariat neofascism. It is demonstrated in its most vicious form not only in Arabic countries of the Middle East, Afghanistan, Turkey, but throughout the whole world as well. ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) founders, everyone fighting for Islam (over 30 thousand young men), their followers over the world – all of them constitute that part of precariat who have adopted barbarous form of unleash war and terrorism against the existing world order.

It’s not only committed religious Islamic fundamentalists who are fighting for ISIS, but many non-Muslims around the world as well. According to the latest data, citizens of over 51 countries are members of ISIS, most of them being from Western Europe and USA. The question that arises, is who they are and why this modern, young, educated people go for it, risking their lives? One can firmly state that parents and families raised, educated, and brought them up not for that kind of activities. We wonder, whether all of those fighting for ISIS, all extremists and terrorists globally, regardless of nationality and religious belief, originate from modern global social environment, social injustice, worldwide system of universal precariation not only of some part of population in all countries (including developing ones), but from outrageous underdevelopment and poverty of most lagging countries and allegedly sovereign states. Social conflicts, extremism and terrorism are inevitable while there’s social and cultural environment, creating precariat class and severe contradictions within society. Forced military actions and bomb attacks won’t help to fight this evil.

Thus, search of constructive methods of transforming the existing situation is an urgent problem of modern world and agenda item both in academic circles and in a wide range of mass media.

The subject matter of the study is precariation process, as a result of world economy globalization. The study reveals contradiction between theory of growth of social wellbeing and practice of moral degradation of the society, people’s overall impoverishment, growth of social injustice to planetary scale. The indicated contradiction has determined the problem of this research, dedicated to rethinking conceptions of social framework and searching new world order.
In accordance with the stated problem, the research goal is suggesting variants of transforming the existing world order through revealing the essence, mechanism, possibilities, and results of precariation process.

The stated research goal has determined the following objectives: 1) to define the core and content of the precariation; 2) to reveal key factors of world population precariation; 3) to investigate global social development tendencies; 4) to reveal principal characteristics of the new world order.

**Theoretical framework**

Core and danger of overall population precariation have been studied thoroughly and revealed in works by Gay Standing (Standing, 2011). In his opinion, precariation has evolved under conditions of social liberalization, standing behind globalization process. It consists of poor people, living below the poverty line, working at random and changing places with no career perspectives; precariation is made up by millions of disappointed young educated people, whose future doesn’t appeal to them at all; millions of women, ill-treated at depressive work; growing army of those labeled as criminals for lifetime; millions of “disabled” and migrants throughout the world (Flores, et al., 2011).

Millions of people in both prospering and still emerging market economy have formed precariat – absolutely new phenomenon, though it had some vague prototypes in the past (Gill, & Pratt, 2008). Precariation can not be referred to middle class either, as these people don’t have stable or predicted earnings, definite position, or benefits, common for middle class representatives (Kalleberg, 2013). Volatile markets, unregulated market economy and related permanent global and local economic and financial crises make labour market and employment relations fragile and unstable (Wright, 2016).

Scientists point out three characteristic features of precariat (Mills, 2014, Neilson, 2015, Modena & Sabatini, 2012). Firstly, it’s their production relations, since they have no employment guarantees and working place. Secondly, specific relations of distribution are peculiar to the precariat. Even if there’s a chance to find temporary job, they have to rely only on cash reward. Precariation can’t depend on pensions, unemployment benefits, payment of medical bills. Thirdly, precariation is characterized by specific relations with the state: more and more precariat representatives have no rights (civil, political, cultural, and economic), inherent to other civilians. Social activity of the part of world precariation is particularly pronounced in Islam radicalization, in extremism and terrorism, posing real threat to all humanity. Worldwide economic globalization implies unification of space into one zone and unrestricted moving of information resources, capital, work force, goods and services within it, free expression of opinions, development, strengthening and interaction of social institutes (Haroon, 2018).

Professor Derre, thoroughly analyzing precariation and its social consequences, notices that low income and precariation, unfortunately, don’t allow people to plan their lives properly. For that reason young people don’t hurry to create families, and families can’t afford more than a single child. Hence, professor Derre comes to undisputed conclusion: “In a society with mass-scale precariation, social structure needs reconsideration” (Marmer, 2009).

How can one dare to contradict such a harsh human’s description, while in the 21st century a third of the world population is impoverished, 0.5 billion people suffer from starvation, 80 million die annually of starvation, and 45 million are subject to slavery.

“A number of states have become very powerful in the 20th century. They suppressed their nations and oppressed their neighbours” (Fukuyama, 2004). However, he duly notes that global economy growth results in destroying autonomy of sovereign states due to the rise in information exchange rate, capital mobility, etc.

Economic reasons of war are far more significant; they fuel people’s anger. They are extreme population growth and competitive struggle for markets. The second factor in particular has supposedly played a vital role in the 19th century and can again be the case” (Keynes, 1936). These factors, which led to the Second World War, aggravated by territorial claims of the states, ruling classes and groups to each other, can make local conflicts raging across the planet to grow into a third world war.

Thus, current approaches to understanding precariation nature are divided into three groups:

1) Marxist approach, considering precariation a proletariat part;
2) Standing’s approach – studying precariation as a specific class;
3) Intermediate approach – characterizing precariation as a specific phenomenon.
The article’s authors stick to the intermediate approach, since postindustrial society development fosters blurring of class-forming attributes, appearing of new employment forms, new economic sectors and new employee types. This leads to new understanding of precariat nature and determines its particular position in modern social structure.

**Methodology**

There is no unified approach to understanding precariat. Standing’s approach, as that of the “precariat society” ideologist, is based on “absolute basic income” principle, according to which every citizen, regardless of his service to economy, regularly gets fixed sum of money to meet his basic needs. To obtain anything more he is offered to earn. Costs in this case are to be covered by super profits from selling natural resources.

This idea can hardly be implemented and is a populist one. The approach applied in this article is based on the principle of “justice” – when people’s profits equal the expended labour at minimum basic wealth. Reduced gap between incomes of various professions and population classes, corruption reduction and adequate profit distribution, and respect for labour constitute constructive vector towards real social equality and harmony; absence of political interference in this process guarantees increase of the state value as a social institution on the part of its citizens.

Historical approach allows to deduce cause and effect relations and results of precariat emergence, formation, and development chronologically. Certain techniques of logical and structural, situational, and comparative analysis have been used to reveal dynamics and structure of precarization process, common and distinctive features of precariat at different stages.

Precarization problem has been analyzed with regard to the transformation of employment structure in postindustrial economy. Precariat figures have been assessed and compared to other social groups based on 1990-2016 empirical data. Studying dynamics of such statistical indicators as global population, number of labour force, migrants, demographic structure of the population, unemployment rate, living standards in various countries, and others allowed us to describe current precarization features and to assess the possible consequences.

**Results and discusión**

**Key factors of global population precarization**

Globalization and spread of information technologies inevitably result in the significant quantitative and qualitative increase in population demands, in developing and underdeveloped countries as well (Ek, et al., 2014). Presently, more than a half of the 15-24-year-old population, who are not students or schoolchildren, are employed in irregular jobs and, subsequently, can’t be financially independent (Esping-Andersen, and Wagner, 2012).

As of the year 2016, total number of migrants has grown, taking into account forced migration of refugees from Ukraine, Middle East, Afghanistan and other countries. All these migrants and refugees fall into precariat of European countries, Russia, USA, China and other states (Paret, 2016).

There are 1.3 billion (more than 22%) who don’t have clean drinking water, 2 billion (34%) live in poor sanitation and 2 billion – without electricity (Weeden, and Grusky, 2012). Meanwhile, according to Forbes, 13.8 million millionaires live in the world, totally possessing $ 135.5 trillion.

Regular and inevitable consequence of globalization is a steady tendency towards social segregation of the whole modern society, on national and planetary scale. Inequality is permanently growing, being worldwide reality nowadays and might provoke serious social and political effect (Vandello, et al., 2009). Even lower position belongs to old proletariat, and under proletariat the precariat is appearing and growing. It is only poorest people, living and dying in the streets who enjoy lower position than precariat (Jankiewicz, 2012).

**Global trends and basic features of the new world order**

There are no mononational states in modern world. European states and American continent are both known for their diverse national and ethnic structures. Russian Federation comprises more than 145 nationalities. This trend is preserved and fostered by intensive migration of people around the world.

New world order can only be set up on unconditional human values. There should be a society with total and eternal equality of people,
regardless their nationality, colour, beliefs, etc., where equal rights are guaranteed, as well as freedom, security, social justice, and minimal level of life benefits. Relations between people and social groups should be based on tolerance, which is in accordance with UNESCO tolerance declaration (1995) defined as universal value and social norm of civil society, pronounced in the right of all individuals to be diverse, in stable harmony between different confessions, political, ethnic and other social groups, respect for diversity of various global cultures, civilizations, and nations, readiness to understand and cooperate with people, different in appearance, languages, beliefs, customs, and convictions.

All resources are to be deemed common for establishing new world order. Distribution of lands and resources between nations and states has become malice embodiment of humanity division and spread of unveiled worldwide hostility between nations (Atkinson, 2010). The current distribution of resources on the planet between nations and states resulted from complicated historical processes, mostly acts of abuse, violence and aggression.

From the point of view of contemporary knowledge of human history and self identity, it is obvious that the epoch of human civilizations is over, together with formation of tribes, nations, peoples, their settling down and establishing territorial distinction, subsequent formation of nation-states with the purpose of strengthening and protecting their occupied territories and invasion of others (Savage, et al., 2013).

Under objective conditions of the new world order certain functions of each separate national state are eliminated. Here belong securing territorial borders from external invasions, holding up interests of the society and its individuals abroad, ensuring business cooperation with other states and international organizations, etc. Abolition of the existing nation-states doesn’t imply denying state regulation of world citizens’ social functioning at all. Legal, economic, social and other functions, properly controlled and attended by civil society institutions, will be exercised by all-planet state authorities on the basis of unified legal norms and standards of the world order, laid in the Global Constitution.

States, as political entities, hamper natural globalization process, uniting of nations, establishing open economic, political, cultural, information space. But natural globalization process overcomes these obstacles and objective tendency of abolition of state boundaries and states themselves manifests itself in various ways. Associations of states, where states grant complete or partial rights to the unity (community) of states are widespread now. For instance, EU, EEC, CIS, BRICS, WTO, OECD, OPEC, ASEAN, customs unions, visa-free agreements, etc. This process is sure to continue and accelerate (Erikson, & Goldthorpe, 2010).

Presently, number of active military manpower is more than 20 mln soldiers and officers worldwide. Besides regular armies, militarized organizations account for 18.5 mln people, and 28.6 mln reservists. Besides maintaining these militants, not engaged in any production, world states spend tremendous sums on military needs, developing, producing and keeping weaponry and mass destruction weapons. In 2014 military expenditures of states amounted to 1.8 trillion dollars (i.e. about 250 dollars per capita around the globe), which equals to 2.3% of world GDP (The Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2014).

Countries have been spending exorbitant resources on nuclear arms race. About 20500 nuclear warheads have been accumulated and concentrated in various parts of the world. That would be enough to destroy all life on the Earth several dozen times. In addition to members of the so called “nuclear club”, including USA, Russia, Great Britain, France, China, the following countries also possess nuclear weapons: India, Pakistan, Israel, and DPRK. Further development and proliferation of weapons with its horrific destroying potential is only one of the lines of arms race. Presently, world powers are rapidly deploying military developments in artificial intelligence sphere. According to experts, army of robots is not a fantasy, but inevitable reality of the near future. It is a dawn of new wave of unprecedented upsurge in arms race.

It is interesting and puzzling fact that about 9 mln (44.6%) soldiers and officers are kept in operational readiness by 15 leading world countries, accounting for 80.3% of all military expenses (table 1). What for do PRC, India, USA, Russia and other states need to keep under arms and in operational readiness multimillion armies? There’s one true thing: either each of them have aggressive intentions and they are preparing to attack other countries, or they are worried about their own security and are preparing to repel the external attacks. It’s a
tricky question: who is getting ready for aggression, and who – for defense.

Along with military expenditure every country spends vast amounts of money on maintaining growing apparatus of state authorities. Under conditions, when a third of global population live below poverty level, mass precariation and impoverishment of people in developed, developing and especially in underdeveloped countries, this act is not only immoral, but contradicts any common sense.

Under new world order, naturally, there’s no longer need for keeping regular armed forces, many functions of today states will be entitled to global bodies of power. Since present armies and armaments are needless, these vast resources could be reoriented on social and economic development and improvement of living standards of the people in need.

It should be noted that instead of existing armies and armed forces there will be global mobile troops for maintaining social order with strict arms limit. World humanity should be freed from any mass destruction weapons. Abolition of the existing nation-states doesn’t imply elimination of the state as it is. It is the Global State, governed by Global Parliament and Government under the motto "Community, identity, stability" (Huxley, 1958) that will replace power of sovereign national states under the new expected world order. Meanwhile, legal, economic, and social systems of the new world order should completely exclude world domination of one country or a group of countries, as well as domination of any corporations on global market. Establishing such flawless, globally unified legal order is an essential imperative for the new world order. (Fukuyama, 2004).

Table 1. Number of military troops and military expenditures around the world and in leading countries as of year 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Number of operating forces, thousand people</th>
<th>Military expenditures, year 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>US billion dollars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>1369,5</td>
<td>610,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRC</td>
<td>2255,0</td>
<td>216,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1000,0</td>
<td>84,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>199,5</td>
<td>80,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>259,1</td>
<td>62,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>188,0</td>
<td>60,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1325,0</td>
<td>50,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>325,0</td>
<td>46,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>239,0</td>
<td>45,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>650,0</td>
<td>36,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>287,0</td>
<td>31,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>230,4</td>
<td>30,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>53,4</td>
<td>25,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UAE</td>
<td>50,5</td>
<td>22,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>514,9</td>
<td>22,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 countries total</td>
<td>8946,3</td>
<td>1427</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World total</td>
<td>20051,5</td>
<td>1776</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The data above is from The Center for Strategic and International Studies, 2014.*
Abolition of the existing state entities, formation of unified planetary social and political organization and system of administration should be reasonably carried out in stages, smoothly, without any revolutionary breakdowns. Firstly, Global Union of sovereign states on confederation principle with unified world central administration bodies (Parliament and Global Government) should be established, applying UNO experience, Security Council, and high-profile unions of states (EU, CIS, BRICS and others), etc. Secondly, a unified global social and political system on the federalism principles should be built up, through transforming current sovereign states into equal subjects of Federation with delimitation of powers between subjects and Global Federal Government (GFG). Further improvement of world order and social structure of human society might be continued towards development and consolidation of civil society and principles of local self-governance.

One of the core issues on the way of formation and effective functioning of the new world order is adopting jointly agreed by all subjects procedure of establishing global administration system, defining functions, rights, tasks and responsibility of administration and executive authorities, namely Global Parliament and Global Government. Top priority strategic objective of these authorities is developing mechanism of global strategic planning and regulating global economic processes; rational placement, distribution, effective use of productive, natural, human, scientific and technological global resources; bridging social and economic gap in underdeveloped countries, complete global elimination of precariat and poverty. One of the most critical and challenging objectives of the Global Government and whole global system of state administration is regulating demographic processes around the planet, primarily birth and migration. Issues of predicting, responding and overcoming potential effects of various global crises, particularly economic, financial, climate, energy, food, water, and biodiversity crisis. Obviously, settling problems of global crises requires new world order formation, providing consolidation of efforts and resources of all humanity.

Certainly, primary and utmost task of administrative authorities is overcoming precariation and poverty of global population. Current level of civilization development allows to overcome poverty around the planet and dichotomous division of the modern world into “rich” and “poor”.

The most important social function of planetary administrative authorities should be guaranteeing living standard no lower than subsistence level for every citizen. National world wealth fund is to be established for this purpose, by collecting and saving rents on natural resources, equally accessible to all people on the planet.

Conclusions

Global precariat growth is accompanied by four vital changes. Women have begun to displace men, let’s mention such phenomena as male unemployment and labour market feminization. While men were squeezed into precariat, women had to bear triple work load, get unstable unpromising jobs, often subsidized by the state. Finally, more and more people are criminalized, getting position even lower than precariat.

There are two possible scenarios of the new world order:

1) Evolutionary (optimistic): smooth and regulated transformation of legal, social and political, social, economic systems, cultural and moral environment, gradual balancing of social and economic development across countries and continents, overcoming population precariation and extreme polarization of living standards around the globe;

2) Revolutionary (pessimistic): consolidation of all precariat world population and formation of precariat class with the slogan “Unite, precariats of the world”, understanding its interests and role in human activity by this class, and inevitable subsequent revolution acts to break the existing systems and to establish new world order on the planet.

New world order requires certain objective conditions. Firstly, it’s unification of all nations, tribes, ethnic groups, etc. into a single all-planet human community. This trend is obvious now and it should be maintained and facilitated. Secondly, universal legal and moral principles of human relations should be introduced. Thirdly, it should be admitted and clearly stated that all global resources equally belong to all people, and every world citizen has right to everything on this planet: on the Earth, under ground, in seas and oceans, atmosphere, etc. Fourthly, formation of unified human community, unification of nations and peoples, elimination of territory and resource division make existing political entities of states


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useless and provide conditions required for their worldwide abolition.

Need for abolition of the existing state entities is dictated not only by the above mentioned objective conditions. State entities in their modern form represent formalized institutions of violence and lawlessness, outside social control. Firstly, the state initiates and supports class break within society, mainly defending ruling class interests (elite, clan, union of class forces, tycoons, etc.). This results in material polarization of society, impoverishment and precarization of most country population.

Secondly, developed dominating countries in favour of ruling classes carry out policy of global market leadership, active exploitation of labour and nature resources in economically, technically and civilisationally underdeveloped countries. Data on polarization of income and related level of social and economic development of 20 richest and 20 poorest world countries was mentioned above. Such neocolonial policy of domineering on the global market results in the appearance of dangerous precariat class and impoverishment, actually in precarization of most poor countries. This leads to sharp controversies, unveiled confrontation between underdeveloped and developed countries and states.

Thirdly, many states under ruling class pressure exercise aggressive international policy to seize territories, natural resources, sales markets, etc. of other countries, thereby causing armed conflicts, open wars, wide spread of extremism and terrorism.

While there are states, advocating ruling class interests, wars are sure to go on. All human history testifies to it. Over past 3500 year civilized world enjoyed only 230 years of peace. Fourthly, each state is forced to build up and maintain armed forces in order to defend its frontiers, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The more armies and weapons, the less trust and more suspiciousness between the states; arms race is accelerating; military expenditures grow, proportionally to readiness to kill each other.

The planet scenario to be implemented depends on wisdom, participation, responsibility of all humanity, primarily state officials, politicians, tycoons, religious leaders, etc. “Growing responsibility, incommensurate with the past, is entrusted to state leaders, heads of international organizations, men of culture, able to break from the strings of national egoism and offer appropriate global solutions. Only timely and concerted activity of numerous forces, though complicated it is, can give way to optimistic scenario.

To get insight into the precariat problem one should understand modern attitude to labour on behalf of society, to trace its change genealogy. Next step includes qualitative and quantitative studies, revealing character of social and economic vulnerability with different population groups.

Precarization processes can adopt various forms and be assessed differently. The experience gained so far proves complexity of this phenomenon: instability penetrates all human spheres and can be caused both by objective (population growth, quantitative and qualitative changes in labour market structure, unemployment, impoverishment, migration, military acts) and subjective factors (lowering work motivation, increasing needs, income polarization).

To overcome precarization objective conditions are needed: unification of all nations on the basis of unconditioned human values, consolidation of natural resources as all-human wealth.

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